

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06
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APPROVED BY EUR/REP:ACALBRECHT

EB/FSE - MR. RAICHT

WHITE HOUSE - MR. BERGOLD (SUBS)

FEA - MR. MALIN

ERDA - MR. SIEVERING

T/D - MR. SCHEINMAN

S/S-O S GOLDSMITH

-----220253Z 032478 /73

P R 220058Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 062956

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EC, MNUC, ENRG, TECH

SUBJECT:BRUNNER VISIT

REF: EC BRUSSELS 2481, STATE 54703

1. IN COURSE OF SERIES OF MEETINGS ON MARCH 17-18, EC
COMMISSIONER FOR ENERGY AND RESEARCH GUIDO BRUNNER EX-
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CHANGED VIEWS WITH ENERGY ADVISER SCHLESINGER AND OTHER
US OFFICIALS ON EC AND US ENERGY POLICY, INCLUDING
ENHANCED ENERGY R&D COOPERATION, RESUMPTION OF US
SUPPLY OF HEU FOR EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAMS AND REGULAR
US/EC ENERGY POLICY CONSULTATIONS.

2. ENERGY POLICY - BRUNNER OUTLINED EC ENERGY PROGRAM AND

SOUGHT US VIEWS ON FULL RANGE OF ENERGY POLICY ISSUES.

HE STRESSED IN COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS NEED FOR MOVEMENT ON SUPPLY AND POLICY LEVEL CONSULTATIONS IN PARTICULAR (DETAILS OF EC POSITION IN STATE 54703). HIGHLIGHTS OF US RESPONSES INCLUDED: A) ON BASIS OF PRESENT POLICIES US OIL CONSUMPTION WILL BE 21/22 MMBD (MILLION BARRELS/DAY) IN 19G5 BUT UNDER NEW ENERGY PROGRAM US HOPES REDUCE THIS TO 15/16 MMBD; B) THAT US ENDORSES USE OF LIGHT WATER REACTORS AS IMPORTANT

ENERGY SOURCES "TO FILL IN BEHIND COAL;" C) REDUCTIONS IN OIL USE IN 1985 PREDICATED ON CONSERVATION AND CONVERSION TO COAL TO REDUCED INDUSTRIAL CONSUMPTION OF OIL BY ABOUT 4 MMBD, TRANSPORTATION SECTOR SAVINGS OF 1 1/2 MMBD AND DECREASED RESIDENTIAL DEMAND OF 1-2 MMBD; D) ON BASIS OF THESE SAVINGS, 1985 DEMAND WILL BE MET BY 10-11 MMBD OF DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED OIL AND 4-5 MMBD OF OIL IMPORTS. BRUNNER WAS CAUTIONED THAT US ENDORSEMENT OF LWR DOES NOT EXTEND TO ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING TECHNOLOGIES WHICH US CONVINCED NEED FURTHER STUDY AND FACT THAT URANIUM RESOURCES GREATER THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT MEANS THERE NO NEED RUSH TO "BREEDER ECONOMY" AT THIS STAGE.

3. R&D COOPERATION - BRUNNER SUGGESTED NEED FOR INCREASED ENERGY R&D EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS OF COAL GASIFICATION AND NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT. HE PROPOSED THAT JOINT EFFORTS BE UNDERTAKEN WITH FOCUS
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IN IEA BUT SUGGESTED BILATERAL PROGRAMS COULD ALSO BE USEFUL WHERE IEA PROJECTS NOT FEASIBLE. US OFFICIALS AGREED THAT INCREASED R&D IN AREAS BRUNNER RAISED COULD BE VALUABLE ADDITION TO PRESENT EFFORTS. US ALSO BELIEVES FOCUS OF JOINT R&D EFFORTS SHOULD REMAIN IN IEA. BRUNNER INFORMED THAT US WILL BUILD LURGI COAL GASIFICATION PROJECT AND POSSIBILITY OF SOME FORM OF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION WITH THIS EFFORT WAS SUGGESTED BY SCHLESINGER. DISCUSSION OF NEXT STEPS ON R&D IT WAS AGREED COULD FOLLOW US APRIL 20 ENERGY MESSAGE AND POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY.

4. US/EC ENERGY TALKS - BRUNNER CONFIRMED EC INTEREST IN REGULAR CONSULTATION ON ENERGY POLICY DEVELOPMENTS? INCLUDING NUCLEAR ISSUES. HE REITERATED REQUEST MADE RECENTLY BY EC OFFICIALS THAT US DEAL TO EXTENT POSSIBLE WITH EURATOM MEMBERS THROUGH EC MECHANISM. US OFFICIALS RECONFIRMED VALUE US ATTACHES TO COMMUNITY ENERGY

ROLE AND AGREED THAT ENERGY POLICY COULD BE REGULAR ITEM ON AGENDA FOR TWICE YEARLY US/EC CONSULTATION, INCLUDING NUCLEAR POLICY DEVELOPMENTS. US/EC CONSULTATION ON TECHNICAL ISSUES CAN BE HELD BOTH ON FRINGES OF POLICY DISCUSSION AND ON AD HOC BASIS IN WASHINGTON AND BRUSSELS AS NECESSARY. BRUNNER ASKED ERDA (SIEVERING) TO CONSIDER VISIT TO BRUSSELS TO DISCUSS TECHNICAL QUESTIONS IN NEAR FUTURE.

5. SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS - BRUNNER PRESSED HARD FOR EARLY RESUMPTION BY US OF SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM

AND SIMILAR MATERIALS TO NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES THROUGH EURATOM SUPPLY AGENCY. HE NOTED PARTICULAR CONCERNS OF FRG FIRM NUKEM AND OTHERS FACING COMMERCIAL LOSS AND PLANT SHUTDOWN DUE TO DELAYS. US OFFICIALS (NYE, O'LEARY) EXPRESSED SYMPATHY WITH EC CONCERNS
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AND EXPLAINED THAT PRESIDENTIAL REVIEW OF SUPPLY PROCESS UNDERWAY. BRUNNER WAS INFORMED THAT HOPEFULLY REVIEW WILL BE CONCLUDED IN NEAR FUTURE AND THAT DETAILED GUIDELINES COULD BE APPROVED UNDER WHICH DELIVERIES ARE TO BE RESUMED. IT WAS ALSO EXPLAINED THAT IN MANY OUTSTANDING CASES LICENSES ARE ALREADY PROCESSED SO THAT SHIPMENTS MAY BEGIN QUICKLY ONCE POLICY DECISION ARE TAKEN AND NEW RULES COME INTO FORCE.

6. THROUGHOUT VISIT DISCUSSIONS WERE OPEN, FRANK AND FRIENDLY. BRUNNER WAS WELL BRIEFED ON FULL RANGE OF ENERGY ISSUES AND PROVED AN ARTICULATE AND GENERALLY FORCEFUL SPOKESMAN FOR THE EC CASE AND MEMBER STATE CONCERNS. US OFFICIALS WITH WHOM HE MET EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR OPPORTUNITY VISIT PROVIDED FOR UPDATE ON EC ENERGY PERSPECTIVE AND GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON DESIRABILITY OF REGULARIZING ENERGY POLICY DISCUSSIONS IN CONTEXT OF US/EC TALKS AND ON NEED FOR INCREASED CONSUMER R&D EFFORTS IN COAL AND NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT AREAS. IN COURSE OF CALL ON SCHLESINGER, BRUNNER EXPRESSED HOPE SCHLESINGER WOULD BE IN POSITION VISIT BRUSSELS AT EARLY FUTURE DATE; SCHLESINGER AGREED CONSIDER POSSIBILITY.

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